

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 06801 060847Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 /083 W  
-----123711 060852Z /16

P R 060750Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1125  
INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMCONSUL UDORN  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6801

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF TH LA  
SUBJECT: INVOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF LAO REFUGEES TO LAOS

REF: BANGKOK 5516

1. REFTEL REPORTED THAT PATHET LAO SOLDIERS HAD SHOT AND KILLED THREE WOMEN WHOM THE THAI HAD REPATRIATED FROM NAKHON PHANOM PROVINCE TO LAOS. THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER THE NATION CARRIED ON MARCH 3 THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE HEADLINED "UPADIT DENIES ALLEGATIONS."

2. "FOREIGN MINISTER UPADIT PACHARIYANGKUN CATEGORICALLY DENIED LAST NIGHT ALLEGATIONS BY THE NEW YORK TIMES THAT THAI AUTHORITIES HAD FORCED THE REPATRIATION OF A LAOTIAN WOMAN REFUGEE AND HER TWO CHILDREN WHO WERE LATER SHOT DEAD BY LAOTIAN AUTHORITIES.

3. "THAILAND HAS STRICTLY ABIDED BY AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES WHICH SPECIFIES THAT NO REFUGEE WOULD BE FORCIBLY REPATRIATED WITHOUT HIS  
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 06801 060847Z

OR HER CONSENT," THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID.

4. "HE ADDED: "I CATEGORICALLY DENY THE ALLEGATIONS PUBLISHED BY THE NEW YORK TIMES TWO DAYS AGO."

5 . COMMENT: THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE NO ADVANTAGE IN GETTING INTO A CONTEST WITH THE RTG ABOUT WHETHER THE INCIDENT OCCURRED.

THE PUBLICITY THE INCIDENT HAS RECEIVED HAS OBVIOUSLY HEIGHTENED  
THAI SENSITIVITIES ABOUT FORCED REPATRIATION TO LAOS. WE EXPECT  
THAT THE EFFECT WILL BE A REDUCED POSSIBILITY OF FORCED  
REPATRIATION.  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPATRIATION, REFUGEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BANGKO06801  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780100-0481  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014